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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/825,846	04/16/2004	Steven B. Bogiel	A4-134 US	9465
23683	7590	09/12/2005	EXAMINER	
MOLEX INCORPORATED 2222 WELLINGTON COURT LISLE, IL 60532			ZARROLI, MICHAEL C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 09/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/825,846

Applicant(s)

BOGIEL ET AL.

Examiner

Michael C. Zarroli

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, - WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 10-14 17 and, 19-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-9, 15, 16 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 August 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/17/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The two references lined through had been considered by the examiner previously.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 10-13 and, 21-27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by applicant cited art Matthews (US 5431576).

Matthews discloses a side-entry board mounted blade-receiving electrical connector (fig. 3), comprising: a dielectric housing (col. 5 lines 7-8) having a bottom wall and a blade-receiving receptacle (34, 39) at a side of the housing (nearly all the figures); and at least one conductive terminal (fig. 8) mounted in the housing (fig. 10) and including a contact section (80) exposed within the receptacle for electrically engaging a terminal blade (28 in fig. 11) of a complementary mating connecting device (9) inserted into the receptacle in a direction generally

parallel (fig. 12, left to right) to a printed circuit board (112), a mounting section (60) exposed exteriorly of the housing (figure 3 or 12) below the bottom wall thereof for mounting the connector (figures 11 or 12) on the printed circuit board, and a flex section (e.g. figure 8 between approximately 74 and 72, 76) joining the mounting section to the contact section and performing a dual function of (a) spacing the bottom wall of the housing above the printed circuit board (fig. 10 near 37 & 57) and (b) providing a yielding flexibility between the connector and the board (col. 2 lines 52-60).

Regarding claims 2 and 22 Matthews discloses that the mounting section of said conductive terminal is a plate-like member for flush mounting on a surface of the printed circuit board (fig. 10 at 37).

Regarding claims 3 and 23 Matthews discloses that said conductive terminal is stamped and formed of sheet metal material (figures 8 & 9).

Regarding claims 4 and 24 Matthews discloses that the flex section of said conductive terminal comprises a generally right-angled bend in the terminal between the mounting section and the contact section (see section of figure 8 highlighted on an adjoining page).

Regarding claims 10 and 25 Matthews discloses that the bottom wall of said housing is recessed in an area immediately above the mounting section of the conductive terminal (fig. 3).

Regarding claims 11 and 26 Matthews discloses that said housing has at least one anti-overstress wing (36) projecting outwardly therefrom above the printed circuit board to prevent over-flexing of the conductive terminals.

Regarding claims 12 and 27 Matthews discloses that a pair of said conductive terminals at opposite sides of the blade-receiving receptacle (fig. 10).

Regarding claim 13 Matthews discloses that said contact section has a plurality of flexible spring fingers (fig. 4 at 80) for engaging the terminal blade of the mating connecting device.

4. Claims 14, 17, 19-20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by applicant cited art Matthews (US 5431576).

Matthews discloses a side-entry board mounted blade-receiving electrical connector (fig. 3), comprising: a dielectric housing (col. 5 lines 7-8) having a bottom wall and a blade-receiving receptacle (34, 39) at a side of the housing (nearly all figures); and a pair of conductive terminals (fig. 8, each side) mounted in the housing (fig. 10) at opposite sides of said blade-receiving receptacle, each terminal being stamped and formed of sheet metal material (figures 8 & 9) and

including a contact section (80) having a plurality of flexible spring fingers (82) exposed within the receptacle (fig. 11) for electrically engaging a terminal blade (28) of a complementary mating connecting device (9) inserted into the receptacle in a direction generally parallel (fig. 12) to a printed circuit board (112), a plate-like mounting section (60) exposed exteriorly of the housing (figures 3, 10 or 12) below the bottom wall thereof for flush mounting the connector on a surface of the printed circuit board (figures 10 or 12), and a flex section (fig. 4 at 50, 52, 72 & 76) formed as a right-angled bend (fig. 8) in the conductive terminal between the plate-like mounting section and the contact section and performing a dual function of (a) spacing the bottom wall of the housing above the printed circuit board (fig. 10 near 37 & 57) and (b) providing a yielding flexibility between the connector and the board (col. 2 lines 52-60).

Regarding claim 17 Matthews discloses a latch means (58) on said other leg for latching the conductive terminal to the housing (fig. 10).

Regarding claim 19 Matthews discloses that the bottom wall of said housing is recessed in an area immediately above the mounting section of the conductive terminal (fig. 3).

Regarding claim 20 Matthews discloses that said housing has at least one anti-overstress wing (36) projecting outwardly therefrom above the printed circuit board to prevent over-flexing of the conductive terminals.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5-9, 15-16 and, 18 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 8/5/05 with regards to the art rejections have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Matthews et al show a blade being received **at a side** of a connector; see figures 3, 11-12, and 15. Applicant has not clearly claimed a topside bottom side or sides in between. In addition, merely reorienting Mathews so that an opening is parallel with a horizontal axis to the ground is well-known and not significant grounds for a patent. In the background section the applicant seems to admit that side entry connectors are known. The applicant goes on to indicate that the core of the inventive concept for his claimed invention is the flexibility engendered in the flex section.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Zarroli whose telephone number is 571-272-2101. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 to 3:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T.C. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Michael C. Zarroli
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

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